

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #79-55 Building Date: 1915

Building Name: Owens-Dyer House

Location: 14508 Main Street, Upper Marlboro

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Owens-Dyer house is a two story hipped roof frame dwelling of four-by-four bays. Entrance to the four bay east (main) facade is in the first bay through a wide door with two lower horizontal wood panels and an upper glass light, surmounted by a three-light transom. The four-bay hipped roof entrance porch has overhanging eaves and the frieze rests on tapered wooden Doric columns. The balustrade has turned balusters and the wooden floor rests on cement block piers interspaced with wood lattice. The house is sided with narrow lapped horizontal wood siding. A wide plain frieze encircles the building. The east (main) facade is surmounted by a centered small hipped roof dormer with a single light window. The fourth (northeast) bay is in a projecting octagonal two story tower with a pyramidal cap. The entrance porch on the south facade wraps around the building and continues across three bays. The southeast bay is in a projecting two story semi-octagonal bay. The west facade is sheltered by a one bay, one story hipped roof porch resting on pillars identical to those used on the main porch. A shed-roof one-story outbuilding north of the house may pre-date it.

Significance

The Owens-Dyer house is significant as an excellent example of an early twentieth century suburban dwelling, in the late Queen Anne style. It was the home of Claude H. Owens, an employee of the Bank of Southern Maryland, located at the northeast corner of Main and Water streets in Upper Marlboro. The house is part of a residential block in Upper Marlboro, significant for its retention of a number of nineteenth century dwellings. The house was built in 1915 by Claude H. Owens on two contiguous lots on the north side of Main Street which he bought from C.C. Magruder in 1913. It is built in a simplified version of the Queen Anne style, which became popular in the early twentieth century when the Victorian taste for ostentatious display became out-moded. The house is distinguished by a porch which wraps around three sides of the building, two semi-octagonal two story bays on opposite corners of the building, and a cement-parged brick foundation scored to look like stone blocks.

Acreage: 27,821 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Owens - Dyer House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 14508 Main Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro ☐ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Andrew Dyer

street & number 14508 Main Street telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro, state and zip code MD. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4181

street & number Main Street folio 616

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title n/a

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission
 city, town Room 4010, 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie, Upper Marlboro state MD. 20772

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #79-55

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Owens-Dyer house is a two story hipped roof frame dwelling of four-by-four bays. It is situated on a slight rise overlooking Main Street in Upper Marlboro. Its town lot is landscaped with evergreen bushes and flowering trees, and is surrounded with a white wooden picket fence.

The four bay east (main) facade faces a tree lined, paved service alley running north from Main Street. Entrance is in the first bay through a wide door with two lower horizontal wood panels and an upper glass light. The door is flanked by single-light sidelights above a wainscot panel, and surmounted by a three-light transom.

Windows on the dwelling are 1/1 double-hung-sash with black-painted louvered wooden shutters. Both door and windows have a wide plain board surround. The four-bay hipped roof entrance porch has overhanging eaves and the frieze rests on tapered wooden doric columns. The balustrade has turned balusters and the wooden floor rests on cement block piers interspaced with wood lattice.

The house is sided with narrow lapped horizontal wood siding, and rests on a cement foundation scored to look like it is built of separate blocks. The hipped roof is of black asphalt shingle, the hipped planes meeting at a central peak.

A wide plain frieze encircles the building. The boxed, overhanging cornice is hidden by the gutters. The east (main) facade is surmounted by a centered small hipped roof dormer with a single light window. The fourth (northeast) bay is in a projecting octagonal two story tower with a pyramidal cap.

The four-bay south facade, fronting on Main Street, is screened from the street by bushes and trees. The entrance porch wraps around the building and continues across three bays on this facade. There is no access from the yard to the porch, and this section of the porch is screened. There is a centered dormer identical to that on the east facade. The southeast bay is in a projecting two story semi-octagonal bay.

The four-bay west facade has an entrance in the second bay. It is sheltered by a one bay, one story hipped roof porch resting on pillars identical to those used on the main porch. This side porch is reached by a flight of wooden stairs. White-painted wooden benches flank the doorway. There is a centered dormer, as on the east and south facades. A corbelled brick chimney rises near the roof peak. The high cement foundation, with foundation windows, is visible on this facade.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #79-55

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates 1915 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Owens-Dyer house is significant as an excellent example of an early twentieth century suburban dwelling, in the late Queen Anne style. It was the home of Claude H. Owens, an employee of the Bank of Southern Maryland, located at the northeast corner of Main and Water streets in Upper Marlboro. The house is part of a residential block in Upper Marlboro, significant for its retention of a number of nineteenth century dwellings.

The Owens-Dyer house was built in 1915 by Claude H. Owens.¹ Owens acquired two contiguous lots on the north side of Main Street in Upper Marlboro from C.C. Magruder in 1913.² An old brick dwelling which had belonged to the Magruder family stood on the property.³ The old dwelling was torn down to construct the new one. Owens was employed by the Bank of Southern Maryland, now the First National Bank of Maryland.⁴ He and his wife subdivided the west portion of the property into two lots, where two bungalows were constructed during the 1920's. The Owens sold their house and lot in 1935.⁵

The Owens-Dyer house is an excellent example of an early twentieth century stylish suburban house. It is built in a simplified version of the Queen Anne style, which became popular in the early twentieth century when the Victorian taste for ostentatious display became out-moded.⁶ The house is distinguished by a porch which wraps around three sides of the building, two semi-octagonal two story bays on opposite corners of the building, and a cement-parged brick foundation scored to look like stone blocks. It is set on an imposing site, on a small knoll overlooking Main Street. The front yard contains two terraces or falls, which may have been landscaping for the earlier Magruder house which stood on the site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #79-55

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 27,821 square feet

Tax Map 101 F-2, p.186

Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro F

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing			

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing			

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commission date September 1986street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr., RM. 4010 telephone 952-3520city or town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. _____

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page _____

The four-bay north facade also has four bays of the main porch crossing the facade. The west three bays of the porch have been enclosed and covered with horizontal wood siding, although the balusters and columns were left in place. The enclosed porch has an entrance in the fourth bay and a modern double 1/1 window in the third bay. A corbelled brick chimney rises near the peak of the hipped roof.

There are two outbuildings to the north of the house, with their rear facades on the service alley. The west-most is a gable roof two-by-one bay, one story frame building covered with German siding, with a large garage door on its north gable end. The eastern building is one story, four-by-one bays with a standing-seam metal shed roof sloping to the north (rear). The building has a hand-hewn log sill resting on brick footings. It is sided with roughly split horizontal wood siding and has corner boards and a boxed wood cornice. There are three six-panel wood doors spaced across the south (front) facade and three irregularly spaced nine-light windows. This outbuilding appears to have been used as a shop or stable and appears to be older than the house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

PG:79-55
Survey No. _____
Section 8 Page _____

The residential area in Upper Marlboro encompassed by Elm Street on the north, Marlboro Pike on the west, Main Street on the south and Oden Bowie Drive on the east is notable for the number of nineteenth and early twentieth century dwellings that remain there. The Owens-Dyer house is an important contributing building to this area, which is a reminder of Upper Marlboro's nineteenth century appearance and character.

Notes:

- 1 Tax Assessment, Prince George's County, District 3, 1912-1915, Claude H. Owens.
- 2 Land Records of Prince George's County, 98:140.
- 3 Ibid. 28:95.
- 4 Interview with Helen Corrico, former Upper Marlboro resident, March 1986.
- 5 Land Records, 407:245.
- 6 Early Twentieth Century Neighborhoods, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1982, pg. 234.

Chain of Title

Owens-Dyer House P.G. #79-55

4181:616 1 Feb 1973 Deed	Andrew W. Dyer to Andrew W. and Shannon E. Dyer. For \$10 grantor conveys that parcel in 3rd District, same which grantor obtained from May Hall and Susanne W. Hall, 7/17/72, 4095:436. Contains .6 acres.
4095:436 17 July 1972 Deed	May (Mazie) Hall and Susanne W. Hall to Andrew W. Dyer. For \$10 grantors convey that land described in Ad. #18873.
AD#18873 8 April 1966 Deed	Administration file of Alice Harris Hall, widow of Clarence H. Hall, bequeathes 1/8th of estate to Marie Hall and 1/8th to Susanne Hall, includes her residence.
407:245 14 Mar 1935 Deed	Claude H. and Kathryn B. Owen to Frank M. Hall. For \$10 grantors convey a part of land Claude H. Owen obtained from Thomas H. Gaither, Trustee, 31 Dec 1913, 98:140. Lots #38 and 50, excepting part conveyed to Charles and Mariam Hill, 26 Feb 1923, 190:358 and that conveyed to Louise G. and Frank P. Scrivener, 4 Feb, 1927, 275:435
190:358 26 Feb. 1923 Deed	Claude H. and Kate Bowling Owen to Charles J. and Miriam P. Hill. For \$1,250 grantors convey that lot in Upper Marlboro, the west part of Owens home lot, 1/2 acre.
98:140 31 Dec 1913 Deed	Thomas H. Gaither to Claude H. Owen. For \$10 grantor conveys that parcel in Upper Marlboro, described in deed from Caleb C. Magruder and Bettie R. Magruder to Thomas H. and George R. Gaither, Jr., 20 Nov 1905, 28:95. Lots 38 and 50, same first described in mortgage from Magruder and wife to grantors, 36:258, same described October 2, 1866 from Richard K. Osborne to C. C. Magruder F.S. 4:112.
28:95 20 Nov 1905 Deed	Caleb C. and Bettie Magruder to Thomas H. and George R. Gaither, Trustees. For \$1 grantors convey Lots 38 and 50 in Upper Marlboro and Brick House lot upon which is a house formerly occupied by Ned Deveal, adjoining Marlboro Hotel, the Academy grounds and fronting on Water Street, allotted to Magruder in partition of estate of father Caleb C. Magruder and mortgaged to grantees dated 7 May 1896 JWB 36:258.

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MALBOROUGH TOWNE APTS.

SCHOOL HOUSE POND

P. 139

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ELIZABETH CLAGETT, ET AL.

T. VAN CLAGETT
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I-3

HENRY P COVELLI
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27.04A
P/O P.197



P.G. #79-55

Owens-Dyer House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
June 1986
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #79-55

Owens-Dyer House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1986
North elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #79-55

Owens-Dyer House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1986
Falls - east yard
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #79-55

Owens-Dyer House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1986
Southeast elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #79-55

Owens-Dyer House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1986
West elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD